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SAVING SOCIAL SECURITY AND IMPROVING EDUCATION IN AMERICA

(Mr. SMITH of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Madam Speaker, over the last month, I held many town hall meetings, and forums with constituents across the 7th Congressional District of Michigan.

Two priority issues that came up in most every meeting was Education and Social Security. Making sure we save Social Security, was not only a concern of the seniors but a concern of younger workers.

Parents were concerned about the K through 12 education for their kids; somehow doing a better job to improve education to make sure every child has the opportunity to learn to their maximum potential.

So I challenge myself and I challenge my colleagues to give education a top priority, to get the money out of Washington and into the class room so educators and parents can decide how best to use it.

In terms of Social Security, we must have provisions that make sure that that generation that worked so hard, that did so much, that sacrificed, that saved string, that bundled tin-foil for the war effort are not deprived of the Social Security that they were promised. Let us make that effort.

In the last 7½ years, this administration has failed to give us the leadership to solve those problems. Let us do better in the future.

STATE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

(Mr. WOLF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, the State Department's Annual Report on International Religious Freedom was released yesterday.

Among the countries that continue to stand out because of their horrible record on religious freedom are China and Sudan.

The report says of China: "Government respect for religious freedom in China deteriorated, as the persecution of several religious minorities increased."

Such groups as Tibetan Buddhists, Muslims, Falun Gong practitioners, and unofficial Protestants and Roman Catholics were subject to harassment, extortion, prolonged detention, physical abuse, and incarceration in prison or reeducation camps through labor, while the State Department says that there are credible reports that the Chinese Government beat and tortured these people of faith.

Also, in Sudan, it says the Muslim-dominated regime continued to persecute members of different religious minorities, Christian and Muslim.

The report says that much of the world's population lives in countries in which the right to religious freedom is restricted or prohibited.

The Congress, the Clinton administration, and the next administration must do more to stand up for those who are persecuted or suffer because of their religious faith.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S TRAVEL EXCESSES

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, remember back in 1992 when President Clinton was criticizing then President Bush for his travels around the world? And remember in the Democrat Convention they had T-shirts that said, "George Bush's around-the-world tour"?

Well, it has been 8 years. Let us look at the record. President Clinton has been one of the most widely traveled of all Presidents, according to the Washington Post. He has traveled with huge entourages. He has spent almost \$300 million just in the last 3 years. And while his term is ending, President Clinton decided to go on one more worldwide tour while he still was on the taxpayers' tab.

According to the GAO, Clinton and other government officials had been on 159 trips in the last 3 years.

Mr. President, it is time to come home and tend to business.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLANS

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, after the Bush press conference yesterday, there are now competing prescription drug plans from the candidates. But for the elderly or the baby-boomers, the competition is already over.

The Bush plan is a fundamental, third-rail change from universally available benefits the way Social Security and Medicare have always been to a low-income benefit more like welfare. If they have little money, they get it; otherwise, they do not.

I represent a lot of lower-income seniors who will be taken care of by either both the Bush or the Gore plan. But I am not about to support a plan that leaves out my many middle-income seniors who are in the same boat when it comes to expensive drugs.

Governor Bush cannot restructure Medicare by restructuring the middle class out of it.

MAKING IN ORDER CERTAIN MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES ON TODAY

Mrs. MORELLA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in

order at any time today for the Speaker to entertain motions to suspend the rules and pass the following bills:

H.R. 4884, H.R. 4534, H.R. 4615, H.R. 3454, H.R. 4484, H.R. 2302, H.R. 4448, and H.R. 4449.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that she will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Such record votes, if postponed, will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6 p.m. today.

WILLIAM S. BROOMFIELD POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. MORELLA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4884) to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 West 2nd Street in Royal Oak, Michigan, as the "William S. Broomfield Post Office Building."

The Clerk read as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REDESIGNATION.

The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 West 2nd Street in Royal Oak, Michigan, and known as the Royal Oak Post Office, shall be known and designated as the "William S. Broomfield Post Office Building".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "William S. Broomfield Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. MORELLA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 4884.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Mrs. MORELLA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I commend the sponsor of this legislation, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KNOLLENBERG), for introducing this legislation,